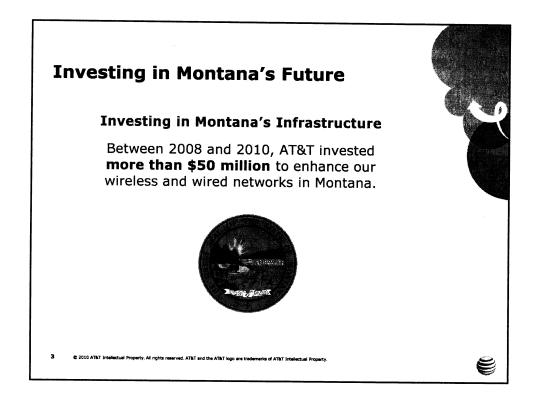
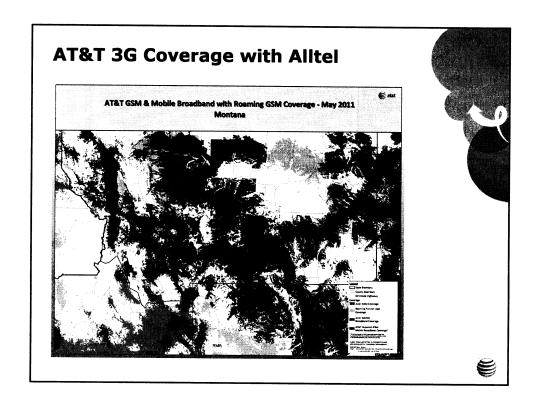
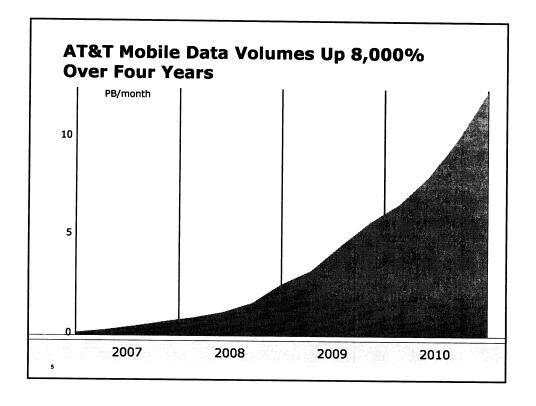


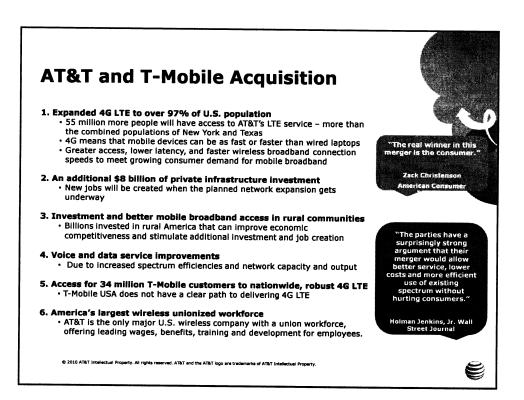
Energy & Telecommunications Committee November 17, 2011

ME 100









A 4G Nation: Broadband in Rural Communities



"The proposed merger of AT&T and T-Mobile gives great hope to residents in rural communities across America that are currently lacking access to advanced wireless broadband connections by expanding wireless coverage into previously uncovered areas."

Ed Luttrell, President of the National Grange The nation's oldest national agricultural organization



Health

- Telemedicine can bring specialized practices to rural communities to provide better health care
- Apps for heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses can let physicians manage health remotely

Economic Opportunity

- Increased broadband access allows rural businesses to compete globally
- Access to a 4G network can attract new businesses that require fast broadband speeds and want the benefits of a rural location

Education

- Increased access to broadband can give children access to enriched educational opportunities
 - Increased access to broadband can provide more higher learning opportunities

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